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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02471 191451Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------101365 191506Z /45
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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6375
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2471

EXDIS

LONDON FOR MOOSE ONLY

E.O. 11652 XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV RH US UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT: KAUNDA'S REACTION TO AGREEMENT WITH NYERERE

1. PRESIDENT KAUNDA TOLD AM EMBASSY OFFICER FRIDAY MORNING THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT RECENT DEVELOPMENT IN THE RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT EFFORT IS THE NEW AMERICAN ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AS CONVEYED TO HIM BY PRESIDENT NYERERE. KAUNDA STATED HE HAD RECEIVED AN EMISSARY FROM NYERERE ON 18 AUGUST WHO BRIEFED HIM ON NYERERE VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND LONDON. LATER SAME DAY HE RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM MYERERE REPORTING IMPRESSIONS OF MEETING IN DAR AND UK AND US AMBASSADORS.

2. KAUNDA STATED NYERERE TOLD HIM THAT U.S. NOW SUPPORTS THE PRINCIPLE THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ARMY MUST BECOME BASIS FOR THE ARMY OF INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE.

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KAUNDA WELCOMED THIS "NEW AMERICAN ATTITUDE". NYERERE ALSO TOLD KAUNDA THAT THERE HAD BEEN DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN US AND UK ON THIS POINT BUT THAT US HAD CONVINCED UK TO CHANGE ITS THINKING. NYERERE TOLD KAUNDA THAT US NOW SEEMS TO HAVE ASSUMED LEADING ROLE ON RHODESIA. NYERERE STATED HE HAD OBTAINED THIS IMPRESSION AS A RESULT OF HIS TALKS ON 18 AUGUST WITH

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UK AND UK AMBASSADORS IN DAR. KAUNDA NOTED THAT HE
HAD TOLD ANDREW YOUNG IN ZANZIBAR THAT US MUST
EVENTUALLY ASSUME THE LEADING ROLE. FACT THAT WE NOW
ARE DOING SO IS CLEARLY SATISFYING TO HIM.

3. KAUNDA STATED THAT THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY THAT
PRESENT RHODESIAN ARMY COULD BE INTEGRATED INTO POST
INDEPENDENCE ARMY. HE SAID RHODESIAN ARMY MUST BE
DISBANDED, ALTHOUGH HE RECOGNIZED THAT SOME PORTIONS
OF PRESENT RHODESIAN POLICE FORCE MIGHT HAVE USEFUL ROLE
TO PLAY AND COULD BE KEPT ON. KAUNDA WOULD NOT ACCEPT
ASSESSEMENT THAT RHODESIAN ARMY PROFESSIONALS ARE JUDGED
BY MANY TO BE LOYAL TO THE NATION RATHER THAN TO SMITH
OR ANY POLITICAL PARTY AND MIGHT BE WILLING TO SWEAR
LOYALTY TO AN INDEPENDENT BLACK GOVERNMENT. KAUNDA
STATED THAT THERE IS NO ROOM FOR PRESENT ARMY IN POST
INDEPENDENCE FORCE WHICH MUST BE ORGANIZED PRIMARILY
AROUND PATRIOTIC FRONT.

4. KAUNDA STATED THAT MUZOREWA HAS NO SIGNIFICANT
FOLLOWING, IS LOSING HIS KEY SUPPORTERS BY DEFECTION
AND CANNOT BE CONSIDERED FOR LEADERSHIP UNDER ANY
CIRCUMSTANCES. AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT WHATEVER
THE TEMRS WILL LEAD TO CHAOS AND CONFLICT. THE
WEST SHOULD STOP READING RHODESIAN NEWSPAPERS WHICH
ARE GIVING FALSE IMPRESSION OF MUZOREWA'S POPULARITY.
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5. KAUNDA NOTED THAT ONLY HOPE FOR AN ORDERLY TRANSITION
AND A STABLE, MODERATE GOVERNMENT IN THE FUTURE IS ONE
LED BY NKOMO. KAUNDA TOLD THE STORY OF THE NKOMO-MUGABE
SPEECHES TO A 5,000 MAN ZANU-ZAPU FORCE IN TANZANIA.
MAGUBE HAD NOT COME ACROSS WELL BECAUSE HE SEEMED TO BE
PREACHING SEPARATISM. NKOMO HAD BEEN GREETED ENTHUSIASTICALLY
BECUSE HE STRESSED NEED FOR ONE ARMY UNDER PATRIOTIC
FRONT TO FIGHT THEIR COMMON ENEMY. KAUNDA NOTED THAT
"WITH THE PROPER LEADERSHIP" PATRIOTIC FRONT ARMY CAN
UNITE AND WILL WIN.
LOW

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Message Attributes

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